

Docket No.  
405507/0030

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants: **Yuichi Nishihara**

Group Art Unit: **Not Yet Assigned**

Application No.: **National Stage of  
PCT/JP2004/001147**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **Concurrently Herewith**

For: **EXPENDABLE CONTAINER WITH FUNCTION OF MEASURING  
RESIDUAL QUANTITY OF EXPENDABLE**

Date: **December 8, 2004**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A & B.

Copies of the cited references are enclosed. English abstracts and machine English translations of the cited Japanese Laid-Open Patent Applications have been provided.

JP 10-305590 was cited in the international search report prepared during international processing of this application. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the International Search Report is submitted herewith, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of the relevance of this reference.

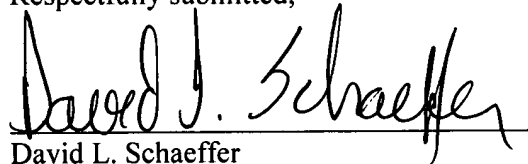
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2), together with the subject national stage application.

Accordingly, no fee is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may now or hereafter be due in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-4709, as necessary.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A & B be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please do not hesitate to contact applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicants  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **2****Complete if Known**

Application Number	<b>PCT/JP2004/001147</b>
Filing Date	<b>Concurrently Herewith (12/8/04)</b>
First Named Inventor	<b>Yuichi Nishihara</b>
Art Unit	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
Examiner Name	<b>Not Yet Assigned</b>
Attorney Docket Number	<b>405507/0030</b>

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		<b>JP-10-305590-A</b>	<b>11-17-1998</b>	<b>Matsushita Elec. Ind. Co.</b>	<b>w/ Engl. Trans.</b>	
		<b>JP-2001-147146-A</b>	<b>05-29-2001</b>	<b>Seiko Epson Corp.</b>	<b>w/ Engl. Trans.</b>	
		<b>JP-2002-241450-A</b>	<b>08-28-2002</b>	<b>Seiko Epson Corp.</b>	<b>w/ Engl. Trans.</b>	
		<b>JP-06-008427-A</b>	<b>01-18-1994</b>	<b>Seiko Epson Corp.</b>	<b>w/ Engl. Trans.</b>	

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 DEC 2004

Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete If Known</b>	
				Application Number	PCT/JP2004/001147
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				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	405507/0030
Sheet	2	of	2		

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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